

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 SCS-03 SCA-01 A-01

OPR-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 /076 W

----- 074266

O P 271225Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8340

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL BUKAVU PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 1727

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, SMITH, HUNTER AND BERGMANN)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED STUDENTS: WHERE WE GO FROM HERE

REF: A) STATE 122435; AND B) DAR ES SALAAM 1706

1. NERVES ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY FRAYED BOTH IN THE DEPT
AND HERE, BUT I'D LIKE TO SET SOME FACTS IN PERSPECTIVE IN-
SORAF AS REF A IS CONCERNED.

2. IN REF A, PARA ONE, I WOULD NOT CHARACTERIZE PRESIDENT
NYERERE'S RESPONSE AS BEING QTE ADAMANTLY NEGATIVE UNQTE.
NYERERE'S POSITION HAS NOT BEEN UNLIKE THE POSITION I UNDER-
STAND OURS TO BE AS I READ POLICY CONSIDERATIONS IN STATE'S
A-775, ENCLOSURE NO. 2, FEBRUARY 5, 1975, AND US GOVERNMENT
POLICY ON BLACKMAIL AS DESCRIBED IN STATE 043544 DATED
MARCH 9, 1973. WE HAVE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT FREEDOM AND
SAFETY OF HOSTAGES BUT UNYIELDING TO ANY TERRORIST DEMANDS.
IN STATE 043544 THE PRESIDENT IS QUOTED IN HIS PRESS

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CONFERENCE AS SAYING QTE AS FAR AS UNITED STATES AS A

GOVERNMENT GIVING IN TO BLACKMAIL DEMANDS, WE CANNOT DO SO
AND WE WILL NOT DO SO UNQTE. IF USG POLICY HAS CHANGED
FROM THE ABOVE, THEN WE SHOULD BE SO ADVISED.

3. IN REFERENCE TO THE TANGOV POSITION AS EXPRESSED BY NYERERE, WHEN ASKED IF THE TANZANIAN POSITION HAD MY SUPPORT IN MY PRESS CONFERENCE LAST NIGHT (MAY 26), I REPLIED QTE TANZANIA IS A SOVEREIGN COUNTRY IN WHICH WE (USG) ARE FUNCTIONING. THEY HAVE THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR CRIMES THAT OCCUR ON THEIR GROUNDS. WE'RE WORKING IN CONSULTATION WITH THEM. WE CANNOT ESTABLISH POLICY POSITIONS FOR THEM. WE RESPECT THE POSITIONS THEY HAVE . . . MUST TAKE FOR THEMSELVES. THEY ARE AS CONCERNED -- THEY HAVE EXPRESSED THIS CONCERN -- ABOUT THE LIVES AND HOW TO SAVE THEM AS WE ARE. WHILE THE STATEMENT THEY HAVE ISSUED MAY SOUND TO YOU TO BE A HARSH AND UNYIELDING ONE, I HAVE REASON TO BE HOPEFUL THAT SOMETHING CAN BE DONE TO SAVE THE LIVES OF THESE THREE PEOPLE UNQTE.

4. IN PARA TWO OF REF A, BE ASSURED THAT WE CONTINUALLY REMIND THE TANZANIANS OF THEIR BASIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HOSTAGES SAFE RETURN. THIS WAS REPEATED AGAIN THIS MORNING IN OUR MEETING WITH FONMIN MALECEL A WHICH IS REPORTED SEPTEL. INSO FAR AS NYERERE'S STATEMENT THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO SUBMIT TO BLACKMAIL, HE WAS REFERRING TO THE NUMBER OF REBEL AND DISSIDENT GROUPS FROM COUNTRIES WHICH SURROUND HIM I.E. MALAWI, ZAIRE, BURUNDI AND UGANDA. HE FEELS ANY PRECEDENT IN CAPITULATING TO DEMANDS WOULD SERVE AS AN INSPIRATION TO OTHERS.

5. NOW, INSO FAR AS WHERE WE GO FROM HERE: THE TANZANIANS, WHILE ADMITTING THE CRIME OCCURRED ON THEIR SOIL, FEEL ILL-EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION WHICH IS NOW ON THE GROUNDS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY. WE, THE USG, MUST MOVE ON OUR OWN INITIATIVES FOR TANZANIAN, AND PERHAPS TO SOME EXTENT ZAIRIAN, CAPABILITY IS LIMITED.

6. I THINK WE NEED TO GET SOMEONE IN PHYSICAL TOUCH WITH THE PRP TO KEEP DIALOGUE OPEN ON RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT ONE OF THE OVERRIDING CONCERNS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PRP HAS BEEN THE OBTAINING OF PUBLICITY. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE QTE BANGKOK SOLUTION UNQTE THE PUBLICITY THEY HAVE OBTAINED AND WILL CONTINUE TO OBTAIN OVER THE NEXT DAYS MAY BE OF ITSELF SUFFICIENT, BUT THIS NEEDS TO BE SOLD TO THEM. THEY ALSO HAVE A RANSOM CONDITION. WHILE WE CANNOT MEET THIS REQUIREMENT, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS, FAMILY MEMBERS, ETC., MAY WISH TO RESPOND ON THIS SCORE. IN THAT CONNECTION, PETER STEINER,

WHO IS HERE REPRESENTING THE SMUTS, THE FAMILIES OF THE OTHER HOSTAGES AND STANFORD, SUGGESTS THAT STANFORD MIGHT BE THE RALLYING POINT FOR THIS FUND-RAISING APPEAL.

7. SOMEONE NEEDS TO TELL THE PRP THAT THIS EFFORT, IF IT IS TO BE PURSUED, IS UNDERWAY.

8. I, THEREFORE, PROPOSE THAT OUR ZANZIBAR CONSUL, LEWIS MACFARLANE, WHO HEADS OUR TEAM IN KIGOMA AND WHO HAS FRENCH AND SWAHILI LANGUAGE CAPABILITY AND WHO HAS AGREED TO TAKE ON THIS ASSIGNMENT, BE DESIGNATED. I WOULD PROPOSE FURTHER THAT A VILLAGE TOWARDS THE SOUTH SHORE OF BURUNDI BE SELECTED AS THE MEETING PLACE BETWEEN THE PRP AND MACFARLANE. FYI: THERE ARE MANY VARIATIONS ON THIS: USING THE FAO BOAT (NAIROBI 4266) TO HOLD MEETING ON LAKE TANGANYIKA, MEETING AT OTHER SITES, ETC., BUT THE BURUNDI VENUE SEEMS OFFER BEST ALTERNATIVE. END FYI MACFARLANE IS CURRENTLY EXPLORING CONTACTS IN THE KIGOMA AREA WHO MIGHT BE USED AS INTERMEDIAIRES WITH PRP TO ARRANGE THE LOGISTICS FOR PRP COMPLIANCE. WE WOULD NEED CONCURRENCE OF GOVERNMENT OF BURUNDI AND GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE TO SO PROCEED.

9. TIME, OF COURSE, IS OF THE ESSENCE IF TANGOV AGREES TO THE RADIO STATEMENT RECOMMENDED IN PARA THREE OF REF A (SEE OUR SEPTEL). THIS WILL GIVE US A LITTLE BREATHING SPELL. TANGOV IS NOT LIKELY TO BE FURTHER COOPERATIVE, BUT I BELIEVE WILL NOT STAND IN WAY OF OUR PROCEEDING AS SUGGESTED ABOVE.

10. THIS IS THE ROUGH SCENARIO PROPOSED. REQUEST BUJUMBURA AND KINSHASA COMMENTS ASAP AND DEPT REACTION.
CARTER

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NNN

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